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June 21, 2012

Newport Beach Planning Commission
City of Newport Beach
3300 Newport Boulevard
Newport Beach, CA 92663

Dear Council Members and Planning Commissioners of the City of Newport Beach,

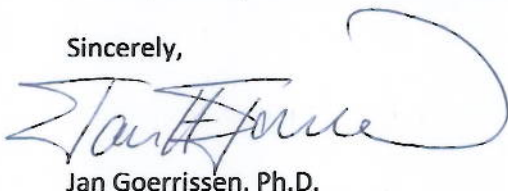
I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed development of the Newport Banning Ranch community. I see a number of reasons to oppose the development, including: 1) subjecting Newport Beach and Costa Mesa residents to a substantial increase in traffic, noise, and air pollution, 2) the loss of additional critical coastal habitat in southern California, 3) the loss of the opportunity to fully maximize the acreage for open space as a recreational attraction for residents and tourists, and 4) the inevitable destruction of critical habitat for several animal species with conservation status.

Due to the now limited extent of public coastal open space and habitat in Orange County and southern California in general, the importance of protecting this area from development cannot be overstated. Of particular importance, the area for proposed development has increased habitat value due to its connectivity with the Talbert Preserve and the Santa Ana River. More open space is needed not only for California flora and fauna, but for long term quality of life for residents in the form of recreation and living in an aesthetically pleasing area. This is a lot to trade off for shorter term gains in potential profits.

The quality of life of *current* residents should be considered in the development of this highly populated area.

Thank you for your time in consideration of my opinions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jan Goerrissen", with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

Jan Goerrissen, Ph.D.